Grant Title: CHILDHOOD OBESITY PREVENTION

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-NIFA-AFRI-004156. CFDA Number(s): 10.310.

Agency/Department: National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Area of Research: Generate new knowledge of the behavioral (not metabolic), social, cultural, and/or environmental factors, including food environment, that influence childhood obesity and use this information to develop and implement effective family, peer, community, and/or school-based interventions for preventing overweight and obesity and promoting healthy behaviors in children and adolescents.

Release and Expiration: Release Date: February 08, 2013.


Amount: Standard Grants must not exceed $1,000,000 per year ($5 million total, including indirect costs).

Length of Support: Up to five years.

Eligible Applicants: Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education. See the full announcement for a complete list of eligible applicants.

Summary: This Challenge Area Focuses on the societal challenge to end obesity among children, the number one nutrition-related problem in the US. Food is an integral part of the process that leads to obesity and USDA has a unique responsibility for the food system in the United States. This program is designed to achieve the long-term outcome of reducing the prevalence of overweight and obesity among children and adolescents 2-19 years. The Childhood Obesity Program supports Multi-function Integrated Research, Education, and/or Extension Projects and Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) Grants. While NIFA recognizes the benefits of basic research, the trend in this RFA has been to focus on finding effective interventions to prevent obesity through applied research; translational research; and integrated research, education, and Extension projects that can result in actionable strategies. The new direction of AFRI in 2013 encourages a variety of project types to address the problem of childhood obesity-multi-function Integrated Research, Education, and Extension projects that emphasize health disparities and cultural influences. The RFA calls for a focus on behavioral and environmental approaches to obesity prevention in children, but the particular issues to be addressed and how to address them will be developed by the investigator(s). Applicants are expected to address the following: 1. Generate new knowledge of the behavioral (not metabolic), social, cultural, and/or environmental factors, including food environment, that influence childhood obesity and use this information to develop and implement effective family, peer, community, and/or school-based interventions for preventing overweight and obesity and promoting healthy behaviors in children and adolescents (ages 2-19 years). This knowledge should have a strong emphasis on health literacy and health disparities. Note that this program focuses on prevention of weight gain and will not fund projects to promote weight loss. 2. Development of effective behavioral, social, and environmental interventions to increase dietary intakes of fruits and vegetables; increase the variety of vegetables in the diet and decrease dietary intakes of foods high in solid fats and added sugars; increase the number of children who meet guidelines for television viewing and computer use; increase physical activity in children; and ultimately to decrease the proportion of children and adolescents who are overweight or obese. The development of new, more effective evaluation tools may be necessary; 3. Expansion of interventions proven effective and assessment of their impact. 4. An increase in the number of parents, caretakers, educators, practitioners, and researchers who receive the training and effectively model behaviors necessary to address the complex problem of childhood obesity prevention.

http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/afri.html